

FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: March 8, 2012

Agenda Item: Canyon Ferry Reservoir and Lake Helena Commercial Fishing Regulations

Division: Fish & Wildlife

Action Needed: Approval of Final Rule

Time Needed for this Presentation: 15 minutes

Background

FWP received an application for a 2012 commercial fishing permit to harvest carp via active seining from Canyon Ferry Reservoir and Lake Helena. By statute, the FWP Commission is authorized to approve one commercial fishing operation for each body of water and to establish specific regulations regarding gear, limits, seasons, closures and any other limitations deemed necessary. This application is for a Class B Permit that requires a fee of \$200 plus a \$1,000 Surety Bond. The commission has approved the commercial fishing regulations for Canyon Ferry and Lake Helena for the past five years. The proposed regulations are included in the information package.

Public Involvement Process & Results

Commercial fishing regulations for Canyon Ferry Reservoir and Lake Helena were originally approved by the commission in 2005 following public notice and an opportunity for public comment. An environmental assessment was prepared to evaluate any potential impacts of this proposal on the human environment, and was distributed for public comment. In subsequent years when the FWP has received an application to fish commercially on these waters, the public has been provided an opportunity to comment. For the current application, the public was allowed to comment on the proposed regulations between tentative adoption of the regulations at the January 19 meeting and February 26. FWP received xx comments and they said...

Alternatives and Analysis

The FWP Commission has two options: tentatively approve the proposed regulations and solicit public comment prior to a final decision, or revise the proposed regulations and solicit public comment. Based on public comment, it may be necessary to revise the proposed regulations governing commercial fishing on Canyon Ferry Reservoir or Lake Helena, or to deny the proposed application for commercial fishing. This coversheet will be revised to reflect an analysis of those comments.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

A recommendation will not be made by FWP until the end of the comment period and an evaluation of the comments we receive..

Proposed Motion

I move the Commission approve (or disapprove) the regulations for a commercial fishing operation on Canyon Ferry Reservoir and Lake Helena for 2012 pending public comment.